the National Human Rights commission (NHRC), the Supreme Court has on November 2, 1995, issued interim orders directing that Chakma refugees situated in Arunachal Pradesh shall not be ousted form the State by coercive action not in accordance with law. The State Government was advised to take immediate action in accordance with these directions.

Polluted cities in the Country

985. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major cities in the country where pollution is increasing;

(b) the State-wise/city-wise details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to check pollution in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) Pollution levels in air, water and solid wastes are on the increase in the major cities in the country. This is mainly due to pollution form industries, vehicles and human activities of an increased population. Vehicular pollution in major cities contributes to about 60 percent of the air pollution while municipal waste contribute about 85 percent of the effluents.

The quantity of emissions from vehicles and municipal waste water generated in the major cities is as follows:

S.No.	Name of city	Vehicular Pollution Load (Tons/day)	Municipal Wastewater Generated (MLD)
01.	DELHI	871.92	1905.0
02.	BOMBAY	548.80	1714.4
03.	BANGALORE	253.72	348.0
04.	CALCUTTA	244.77	780.9
05.	AHMEDABAD	243.94	381.6
06.	PUNE	212.76	161.8
07.	MADRAS	188.54	200.0
08.	HYDERABAD	169.03	522.0
09.	JAIPUR	74.98	134.4
10.	KANPUR	71.99	325.6
11.	LUCKNOW	69.58	221.6
12.	NAGPUR	47.80	192.0

(SOURCE: Central Pollution Control Board, New Delhi)

(d) The steps taken by the Government to check pollution in the country include the following:

(i) Emission and effluent standards have been notified for the major categories of polluting industries.

(ii) Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment within a stipulated time-frame and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.

(iii) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for sitting and operation of industries.

(iv) Fiscal incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and also for the shifting of industries form congested areas.

(v) Customs and excise duty exemption are provided to the industries for pollution control/ monitoring equipment.

(vi) A scheme for setting up of common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) in clusters of small-scale industrial units is under implementation.

(vii) Public awareness campaigns on the effects of pollution have been launched.

(viii) A network of ambient air and water quality monitoring stations have been set up.

(ix) A programme for phasing out of lead content in petrol is under implementation. Unleaded petrol with catalytic converter fitted vehicles has been introduced in the four metropolitan cities.

LPG Connections in Punjab

986. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of LPG connections with each agency in various districts of Punjab State and the number of persons on the waiting list, as on 30th October, 1995;

(b) by when the waiting list is likely to be cleared; and

(c) what speedy steps are being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) The requisite information is given in the Annexure.

[*See* Appendix 175, Annexure No. 24]

(b) and (c) New LPG connections are released in a phased manner throughout the country including Punjab depending upon the availability of LPG, new customer enrolment plan, waiting list, slack available with the distributors and their viability. Efforts are however constantly on to release LPG connections to as may applicants and as early as possible.

Sanction for posts for Cochin Port Trust

987. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cochin Port Trust has requested to sanction a few posts for handling the container traffic and their maintenance;

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon;

(c) since when these requests are pending before Central Government and the reasons for the delay; and

(d) whether Government are aware that the port containers traffic is suffering due to the want of sufficient staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d) The proposal for creation of posts for operation and maintenance of Container Terminal at Cochin Port was received in 1992. The Projet was completed only on 31.12.94. 113 posts in different categories were sanctioned till November 1993. Now the demand of the port is for creation of additional 148 posts. With 113 posts plus 30 posts which were created at the construction stage, the terminal is operating in two shifts. The proposal for creation of additional posts is under active consideration of the Government.

Scarcity of Technical staff at Cochin Port

988. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the maintenance of equipments including the cranes are suffering due to scarcity of the technical staff at the Cochin Port; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons that the port authorities are not recruiting enough staff to keep the proper maintenance of the imported costly equipments?